

**RULES ~~AND REGULATIONS~~**  
**FOR**  
**ELECTION OFFICIALS TRAINING**  
**(~~Effective March 17, 2002~~ Draft as of September, 2003)**

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## Scope of Rules

These rules ~~and regulations~~ will set forth the procedures for coordinating election official training. These rules are in addition to and not a substitute for the laws of the State of Arkansas.

## § 200 Definitions

- (a) Election Official – a person who is a member of the county board of election commissioners or a person who is a poll worker, having been designated by a county board of election commissioners to be an election clerk, election judge, or election sheriff.
- (b) Polling Site – a location selected by the county board of election commissioners where votes are cast.
- (c) Primary Election – any election held by a political party in the manner provided by law for the purpose of selecting nominees of said political party for certification as candidates for election at any general or special election in this state.

## § 201 Qualifications of Election Officials Designated as Poll Workers<sup>1</sup>

- must be qualified electors of this state,
- must be able to read and write the English language,
- must be residents of the precincts in which they serve at the time of their appointment unless county board determines unanimously that it is impossible to obtain qualified election officials from precincts, in which case they may be qualified county residents,
- must not have been found guilty or pled guilty or nolo contendere to the violation of any election law of this state,
- must not be ~~a~~ paid employees of any political party,
- must not be ~~a~~ paid employees of any person running for any office,
- must not be married to or related within the second degree of consanguinity to any candidate running for office in the current election if objection to such service is made to the county board of election commissioners within ten (10) calendar days after the posting or publishing of the list of election officials,
- must not hold at the time of the election any office, appointment, or employment in federal, state, county, or city government,
- must not hold at the time of the election any office, appointment, or employment with any municipal board, commission, or trust in any city, except justices of the peace, aldermen, notaries public, and members of the military,
- must not be ~~a~~ candidates for any offices to be filled at an election at which ~~he/she~~ they shall serve.

<sup>1</sup> Ark. Code Ann. § 7-4-109; Art. 3, § 10 of the Arkansas Constitution

## § 202 Required Training

- The county board of election commissioners for each county shall designate two (2) qualified electors of the county to attend training conducted by the State Board of Election Commissioners for the purpose of being certified by the Board as election official trainers for that county.
- The county board of election commissioners for each county shall designate a minimum of two (2) election officials per polling site to attend election official training conducted by certified trainers and coordinated by the State Board of Election Commissioners.<sup>2</sup>
- At least one (1) election official at each polling site shall have attended election training coordinated by the State Board of Election Commissioners.<sup>3</sup>

## § 203 Compensation<sup>4</sup>

- ~~Compensation for attending election official training coordinated by the State Board of Election Commissioners shall be at the rate of the federal hourly minimum wage for number of hours in attendance.~~
- ~~Election Officials must work a polling site on the election day immediately following the training to be eligible for reimbursement for attendance at election official training.~~
- The county will be reimbursed for a maximum of two (2) trainees designated by the county boards of election commissioners to attend training conducted by the State Board of Election Commissioners for the purpose of becoming certified election official trainers at a flat rate of \$50, plus mileage reimbursement at the rate established for state employees by state travel regulations, upon completion of the training and certification by the Board.
- The State Board shall issue certifications to all trainees who successfully complete the training program. Such certification shall be valid for a period of two (2) years.
- Election officials who attend training conducted by certified trainers and work the polls from opening until closing on the preferential primary election day immediately following the training will be compensated at the flat rate of \$100.
- Election officials who do **not** attend training conducted by certified trainers, but who work the polls from opening until closing on the preferential primary election day will be compensated at the flat rate of \$75.
- Election officials who work a split shift at the polls on the preferential primary election day will be paid one-half (1/2) of the rate prescribed above (either trained or untrained, as the case may be) for those working a full day.
- Election officials who work at off-site early voting locations outside of the county clerk's office, and who attend training conducted by a trainer certified by the State Board prior to a preferential primary election shall be reimbursed at the federal minimum wage for the hours worked, plus a \$25 training differential (with a maximum \$25 differential per

<sup>2</sup> Ark. Code Ann. § 7-4-109(f)(1)

<sup>3</sup> Ark. Code Ann. § 7-4-107(b)(1)(B)

<sup>4</sup> Ark. Code Ann. § 7-4-109(f)(2)

election, regardless of whether such election officials also work the polls on election day.)

- Certified trainer compensation for conducting election official training in a county prior to a preferential primary election will be paid to the county at the flat rate of \$30 per training session up to a maximum of two (2) sessions per county.
- ~~Compensation will be paid to the county for purpose of reimbursing election officials for attending training.~~
- Election official compensation will be paid directly to the counties, and only to those counties submitting reimbursement requests on forms approved and provided by the State Board of Election Commissioners to the counties for that purpose.
- ~~Each county shall be reimbursed a minimum amount equivalent to two (2) eligible election officials per polling site at federal hourly minimum wage for the number of hours in attendance at training, up to a maximum of three (3) hours each.~~
- Each county ~~may shall~~ be reimbursed ~~a for a~~ maximum ~~amount equivalent to of~~ six (6) eligible election officials per polling site per preferential primary election at federal hourly minimum wage for the number of hours in attendance at training, up to a maximum of three (3) hours each, if appropriations are available.
- Each county board of election commissioners must certify and attest to those trained election officials eligible for the higher rate of -reimbursement on forms approved and provided by the State Board of Election Commissioners to the counties for that purpose.
- Failure to comply with the rules developed by the State Board for the administration of election officials' training could result in withholding of reimbursement of funds to the counties until all requirements are met to the satisfaction of the State Board.

## § 204 Training Materials

- The State Board of Election Commissioners will provide training materials to each of the seventy-five (75) counties.
- ~~Training of election officials by the staff of the State Board of Election Commissioners is available to each county upon request.~~
- ~~Any county desiring to conduct its own election officials' training must use the materials provided by the State Board of Election Commissioners.~~ Election official training shall be conducted only by trainers who have been certified by the State Board of Election Commissioners using materials provided by the Board. Any exception must be by prior written request to the State Board of Election Commissioners with prior written approval by the Board.